

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 22, 2003

1. Call to Order.

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Jerome C. Daniel, at 7:35 p.m. on September 22, 2003 at Franklin Canyon Park, Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

2. Administration of Oath of Office to new members.

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Advisory Committee Members Claudia Bill De La Peña, Liane Weintraub, and Bruce Saito.

3. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Heather Barnett, Ed Begley, Jr., Linda Parks, Hal Ross, Jody Cook, Elizabeth Cheadle, Vice Chair, and Jerome C. Daniel, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Woody Smeck, Ron Schafer, Jonathan Zasloff, and Steve Horn.

4. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Claudia Bill De La Peña, Lorraine Slattery, Ed Corridori, Liane Weintraub, Lesley Devine, Barry Read, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Richard Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, Paul Rockenstein, Marc Stirdivant, Bruce Saito, Timothy Wendler, Don Robinson, Vice Chair, and George Lange, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Corline Brown, Dave Brown, Terre Hirsch, Mark Johnson, Thomas Seifert, and Heinz Ellersieck. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Michael Cacciotti and Nancy Stephens.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources

and Planning; MRCA staff: Reva Feldman, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Urban Programs; Gary Lysik, Finance Director; Juliet Chung, Government Program Analyst; Simon Macguire, PC Support Technician; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Deborah Lambe, Staff Counsel; Lisa Soghor, Chief of Premier Parks; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst, Melissa Chigaridas, JPA Secretary, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

5. Introduction of Legislative Representatives and their staff.

The following Legislative Participant was present: Fran Pavley. The following Legislative Representatives were absent: Susan McEntire, Laura Plotkin, George Magallanes, and Carolyn Kraft.

6. Approval of Minutes.

The Minutes of June 23, 2003 and July 28, 2003 were submitted for approval.

The Minutes of June 23, 2003 and July 28, 2003 were approved as submitted.

7. Reports.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Cook, Ms. Pavley, and the Executive Director.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Edelman.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Lethbridge.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Miller.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Sims.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Chair.

8. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Mr. Portantino.

9. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Andy Lipkis, representing TreePeople, on items 15 and 17.

Laurence Perry, member of the public.

Ed Casey, member of the public, on item 10(b).

Janet Murphy, representing the Environmental Coalition, on item 14.

Don P. Mullally, representing the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park Consortium.

Vanessa Nall, member of the public, on item 10(b).

Betsey Landis, representing the California Native Plant Society, on items 10(i) and 10(j).

Roger Wolf, representing the Annandale Concerned Neighbors, on item 10(c).

Nina Chomsky, member of the public, on item 10(c).

10. Consent Calender:

- (a) Consideration of resolution commending the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for assistance to the County of Los Angeles in the operation, maintenance, and management of the Placerita Canyon State Recreation Area on a month to month basis within available resources and funding.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation authority acquire 21.82 acres in Chalk Hills (APNs 2166-013-015, 016) using funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 2, Woodland Hills.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Pasadena on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Annandale Canyon Estates, Pasadena.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Mountaingate project, Brentwood.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles City Council supporting appeal filed against Parcel Map No. 7284 located at Maude Avenue, Shadow Hills.**

- (f) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles Community College District on the Los Angeles Mission College Master Plan and Public Recreation Improvement Program, Sylmar.**
- (g) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on Notice of Preparation for proposed Malibu Valley Inn project in Stokes Canyon where it intersects Mulholland Highway, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (h) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter of support for Federal designation of the Sespe Wilderness Area by the United States Congress.**
- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to establish the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund for the purpose of augmenting the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts Nos. 1 and 2, Los Angeles.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire approximately 2958.76 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch.**

Items 10(b), 10(c), and 10(g) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-138, 03-141, 03-142, 03-143, 03-145, 03-146, and 03-147.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 03-138, 03-141, 03-142, 03-143, 03-145, 03-146, and 03-147.

- 10(b). Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation authority acquire 21.82 acres in Chalk Hills (APN 2166-013-015, 016) using funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 2, Woodland Hills.**

Comments were made by Ms. Devine.

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-139.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03- 139.

10(c). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Pasadena on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Annandale Canyon Estates, Pasadena.

Comments were made by Messrs. Portantino and Wendler.

On motion of Mr. Wendler, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-140.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03- 140.

10(g). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on Notice of Preparation for proposed Malibu Valley Inn project in Stokes Canyon where it intersects Mulholland Highway, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman, Ms. Devine, and Ms. Palmer.

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-144.

Ms. Devine was noted as abstaining.

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03- 144.

11. Consent Calendar of Coastal Items:

- (a) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept a grant from Environment Now, a non-profit organization, for project planning and design for the Ballona Creek bike path and access points, Los Angeles.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept the following offers-to-dedicate trail easements:**

Perkins / P-5-82-142 located south of Mulholland Highway, east of Las Virgenes Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County and Maren / P-5-87-409 located south of Mulholland Highway, east of Las Virgenes Canyon Road, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

- (c) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept the following offer-to-dedicate open space easement: 1758 Properties Ltd. / P-5-82-219 located on Old Topanga Canyon Road and Red Rock Road, west of Topanga Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Consultation for project located at 24803 Piuma Road, unincorporated Malibu.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Malibu on proposed Negative Declaration for commercial office development located at 24903 Pacific Coast Highway, adjacent to Puerco Canyon, Malibu.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Consultation for Oak Tree Permit and Plot Plan No. 48058 in Corral Canyon, unincorporated Malibu area.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Preparation for Oak Tree Permit and Plot Plan No. 48020 on the former Adamson property in Malibu Canyon, unincorporated Malibu area.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the acquisition of Tuna Canyon, County Certificate of Compliance Parcel No. CC-90-1052 (portion of APN 4448-030-024), unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (i) Consideration of resolution accepting a grant from the State Coastal Conservancy for the possible acquisition of approximately 2958.76 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch.**
- (j) Consideration of resolution authorizing a joint powers agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy for the purposes of acquiring approximately 2958.76 acres**

(APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-149, 03-150, 03-151, 03-152, 03-153, 03-154, 03-155, 03-156, and 03-157.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. Nos. 03-149, 03-150, 03-151, 03-152, 03-153, 03-154, 03-155, 03-156, and 03-157.

The Chair noted that items 15 and 17 would be heard next.

- 15. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with TreePeople, a non-profit organization, for the implementation of watershed projects in the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Zone.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Divine.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Bullard.

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-161.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-161.

- 17. Consideration of resolution authorizing a non-profit matching grant of Proposition 40 funds to TreePeople for the Center for Community Forestry in Coldwater Canyon Park, Los Angeles.**

Comments were made by Ms. Skei and Ms. Bullard.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Saito, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-162.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-162.

12. Consideration of resolution adopting the La Tuna Canyon Hillview property Project Plan, Verdugo Mountains, Los Angeles.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-158.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Barnett, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-158.

The Chair noted that item 13 would be heard later in the meeting.

[Ms. Stephens arrived at 9:31 p.m.]

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Moorpark on the Draft Environmental Impact Report and Specific Plan for the North Park Village project, Moorpark.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos and Mr. Corridori.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-160

Questions were propounded by Ms. Parks.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

Questions were made by Ms. Parks.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Begley, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-160.

- 16. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize a grant of Proposition 50 funds to TreePeople, a non-profit organization, for development of watershed projects in the San Fernando Valley.**

This item was postponed to a later date.

- 18. Consideration of resolution adopting the Vista Hermosa Park Project Plan, Los Angeles.**

This item was postponed to a later date.

- 19. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Vista Hermosa Park project, Los Angeles.**

This item was postponed to a later date.

- 13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire the approximately 51-acre La Tuna Canyon Hillview property (APNs 2562-014-010, 2562-022-001, 2572-028-001, 002, and 003), Los Angeles. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)***

This item was discussed in closed session.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Saito, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-159.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Ross, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-159.

- 20. Consideration of resolution reaffirming Resolution No. 03-134, authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into purchase and sale agreement and/or**

option or other agreements and authorizing the Executive Director to consummate the transaction contemplated by such agreement to purchase approximately 2958.76 acres (APNs 685-0-060-040, 685-0-060-360, 685-0-070-040, 685-0-070-080, 685-0-070-090, 685-0-070-120, 685-0-070-140, 685-0-070-160), Ventura County, commonly known as the Ahmanson Ranch. (This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)

This item was discussed in closed session.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Devine, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-166.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-166.

- 21. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Parker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America, and related cross-complaint: Soka University of America v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.***

The Chair called a closed session at 9:50 p.m. pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code to discuss items 13 and 20.

[Michael Cacciotti arrived at 9:55 p.m.]

The Chair reconvened the open session at 10:20 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to negotiators.

- 22. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on October 27, 2003.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

JEROME C. DANIEL
Chair